



LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS
7500 ODAWA CIRCLE, HARBOR SPRINGS, MI 49740

TRIBAL COUNCIL TRAVEL REPORT NARRATIVE

From: Kevin A. Gasco

Date: August 26, 2012

Re: United Tribes Meeting, Lansing MI

I attended the United Tribes Meeting held on August 22, and 23 in Lansing MI. On the 22 nd ,
there was a dinner and opportunity for networking. I attended an after-dinner networking session
with Sault Tribe Board Member Debra Ann Pine, Sault Tribe Government Relations Director
Mike McCoy, Little River Economic Director Robert Memberto to discuss internet gaming. Also
in attendance was Terri Fitzpatrick from the MEDC and Melissa Claramunt from MI DCR. I was
able to gather from the discussion that there will likely be a meeting in September. I also met Jake
Miklojcik, President of Michigan Consultants.

The dinner speaker was Eric S. Trevan of Anishnabe Development who was a presenter at the
MEDC Economic Development Forum I attended as well. He spoke on sustainable cooperative
economies with tribal planning. I would recommend we contact him to do a presentation for the
full Tribal Council because the process he talks about in his presentations is exactly where we are

currently.
The day of the UT Meeting was August 23 rd and contained many of the same presentations as
the first UT meeting I attended. Updates from the Michigan Department of Civil Rights regarding
the Tuition Waiver, updates from the Department of Human Services, the Veteran's Administra-
tion, the Detroit Division of the FBI regarding community outreach programs, a legal update
from Godfrey & Kahn, a presentation about the National Indian Health Board, and a presenta-
tion from RWI Benefits. Of special note were the discussions on the NIHB and RWI Benefits.
There will be a meeting in the Sault regarding the establishment of a regional health board; we are
the only region with the IHS framework without one. The presentation from RWI Benefits could
help the Tribe save money in the long run by partnering with other tribes in a comprehensive
Native Health Care Reform initiative. The Honorable Pat Miles, US Attorney for the Western
District of MI was introduced as well.
The official business of the UT was to pass some resolutions. The ones I remember were in
support of the Michigan Family Preservation Act, Letter of Support for the US Senate approval
of the nomination of Kevin Washburn as the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Indian Affairs,
and a resolution supporting Kenneth Ermatinger as Chairman of the National Tribal Gaming
Commissioners/Regulators Association.
In the afternoon of the 23 rd , I attended the Tribal State Summit where the Chairmen of the
Tribes in attendance met with the Governor to discuss issues and concerns. Our Chairman re-
presented us well and we were able to have a picture taken of Chairman McNamara, Councilor

Wemigwase, Councilor Bardwell, General Counsel Bransky and myself. I really enjoyed hearing
the discourse of the various tribal leaders and the Governor.
Kevin A. Gasco, Tribal Councilor
